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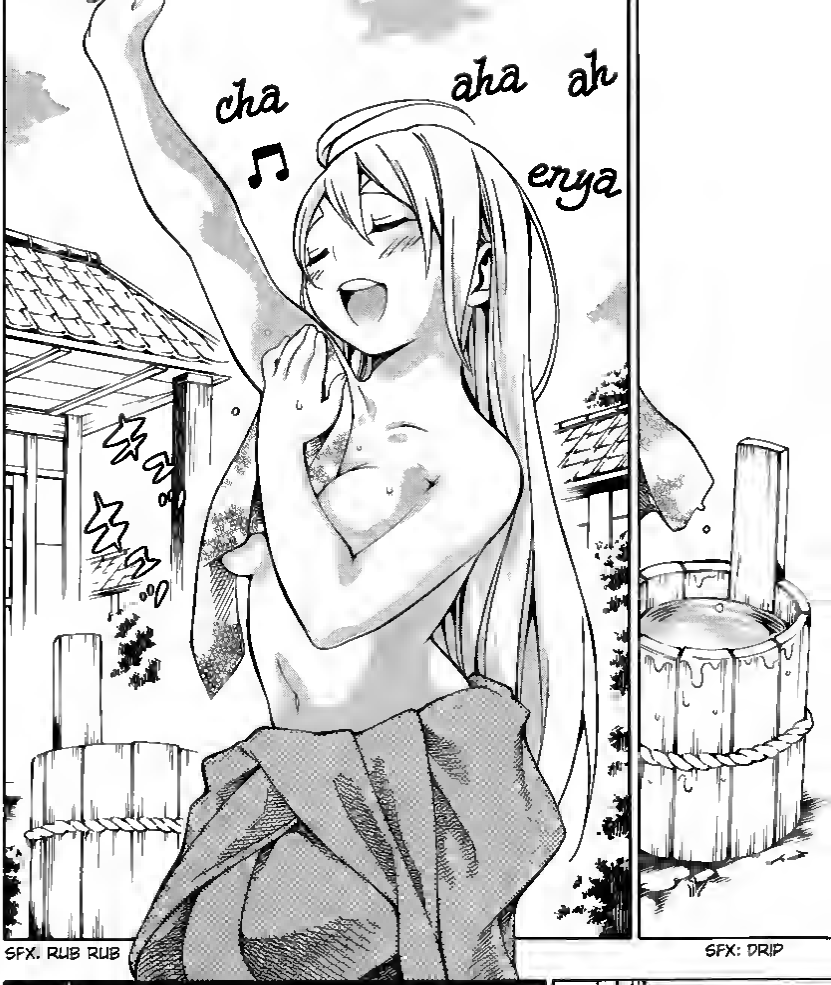
This girl is quite frustrating... yet she brings a big smile to your face.

八重の桜

Yae no Sakura

Yae's marriage


cha
aha ah
enya
SFX: RUB RUB
SFX: DRIP

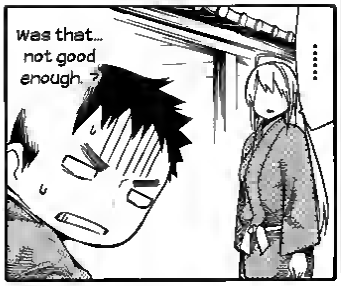
For some reason, Yae suddenly feels a hidden gaze. It seems like there's no question that this person is--
.....
PEEP-ING!!
!!!
YAAA!!

WHO'S HIDING OVER THERE!?
IF YOU DON'T COME OUT, I'LL SHOOT!!
ニヤキ
A GUN!?
HURRY UP AND COME OUT!!
……
カサッ
!

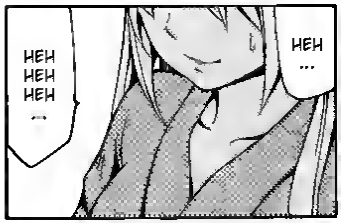
G... GOOD MORNING, LADY YAE...
ゴト
WHY WERE YOU HIDING OVER THERE?
AH... ER...
C-Crap...
OH...
AREN'T YOU FROM NEXT DOOR?
TEJIRO!

people will look down on me
If I confess that I was here to peep on her taking a bath...
BANG!
what should I do...!?
That's if I'm not killed by Yae-sama first!
That's it!
ZUU...
!!
...WELL?
ER... UHM...

I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK!
PLEASE TEACH ME HOW TO SHOOT!!
HUH?
SHOOT GUNS!?
TEJIRO, EVEN IF YOU DON'T TAKE THE INITIATIVE, YOU'LL EVENTUALLY BE TAUGHT AT NISSHINKAN, YOU KNOW?
N... NO MATTER WHAT!
EVEN IF YOU'RE A GIRL, YOU WERE TOUTED AS A VIRTUOSO IN SHOOTING,
SO I WANT TO LEARN FIREARMS FROM MASTER YAE!

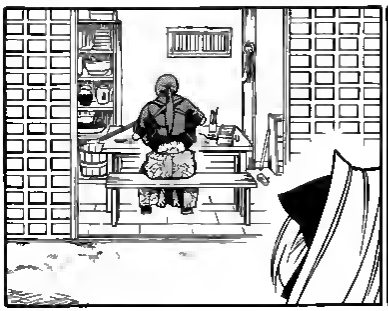

was that... not good enough...?
.....

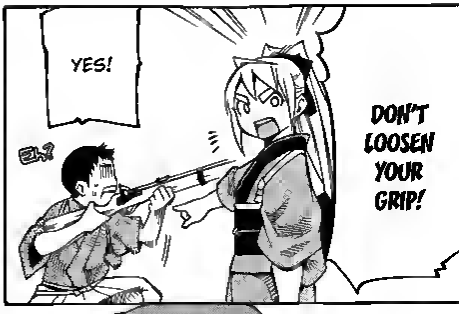
A VIRTUOSO IN SHOOTING!
MASTER YAE!!

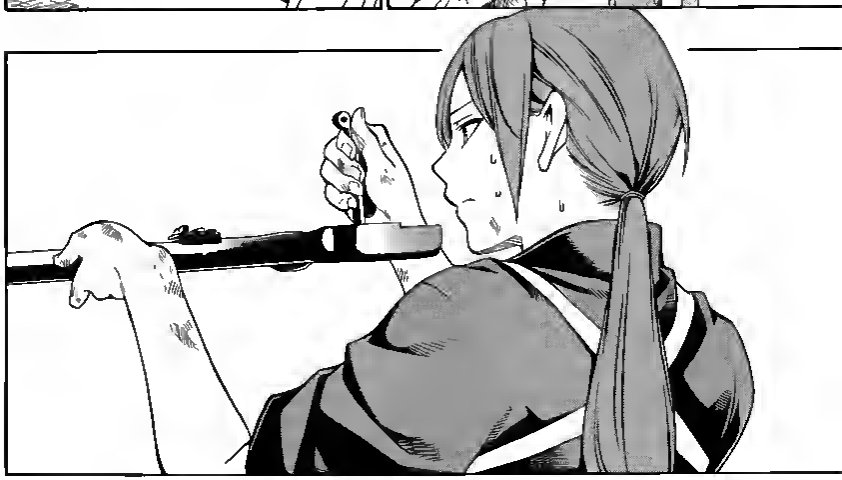

HEH...
HEH HEH HEH...

ALL RIGHT!!
ITOU TEJIRO, I ACCEPT YOU AS MY DISCIPLE!

I... I'M SAVED!!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!
HAA...
Y... YES!
LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD!
LOWER YOU WAIST FURTHER!
WELL, THAT'S HOW YAE-SAN IS...
Ah, I'm getting a headache.
A GIRL OF THAT AGE TEACHING GUYS HOW TO SHOOT...




YES!
DON'T LOOSEN YOUR GRIP!

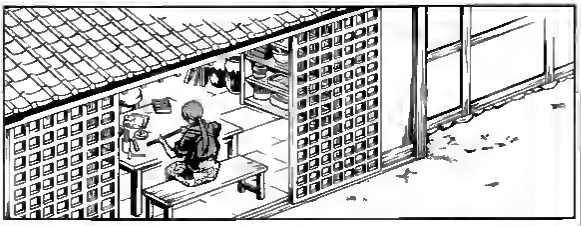


FATHER?
YAE,
COME HERE.

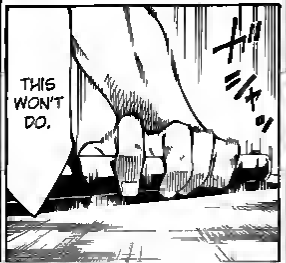
haa
haa
heavy
.....

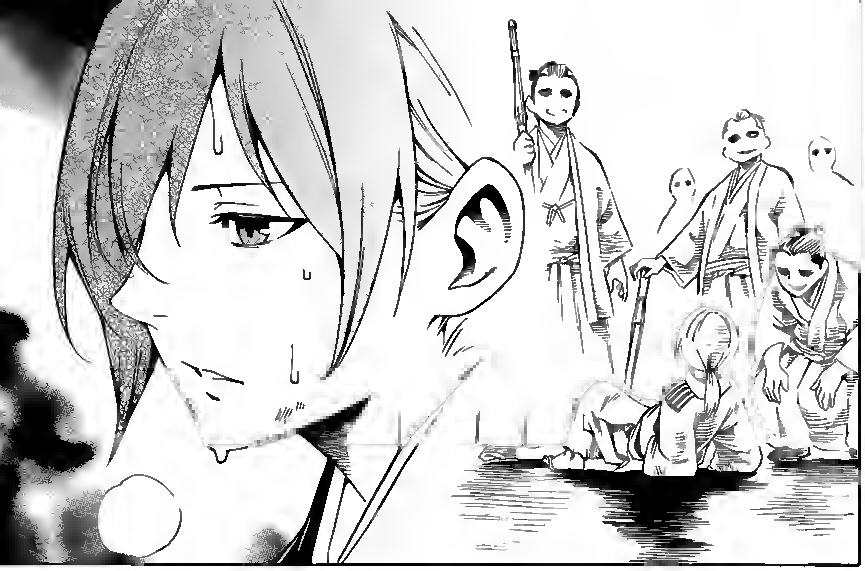
I CAN FINALLY REST NOW...
?
I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT I NEED TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.
EH!?
A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL!?
FOR ME ...?
YES.
OKAMOTO-SAMA INTRODUCED THE CANDIDATE HIMSELF. HE SAID HE REALLY WANTED TO MARRY YOU!

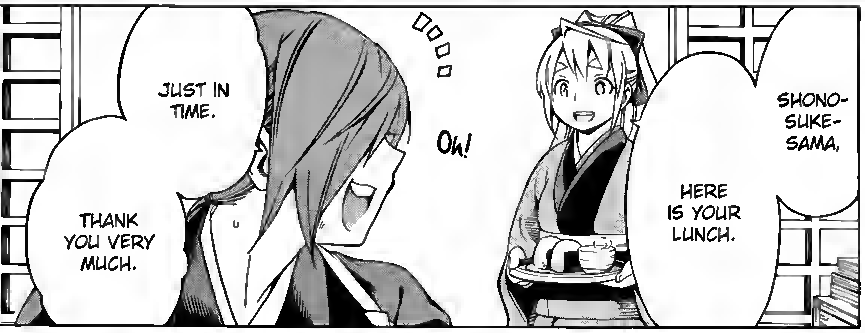
A GIRL OF AGE STILL PLAYING WITH GUNS ALL DAY...
IT'S FATE! YOU SHOULD JUST LEAVE IT AT THAT!
B... BUT DEAREST BROTHER HAS HANDED OVER THE SHOOTING ARENA TO ME.
WE SHOULD AT LEAST WAIT UNTIL HE RETURNS...



Ahh.
JAM-MED...
THIS ARRANGE-MENT IS NOT FOR THE BEST...

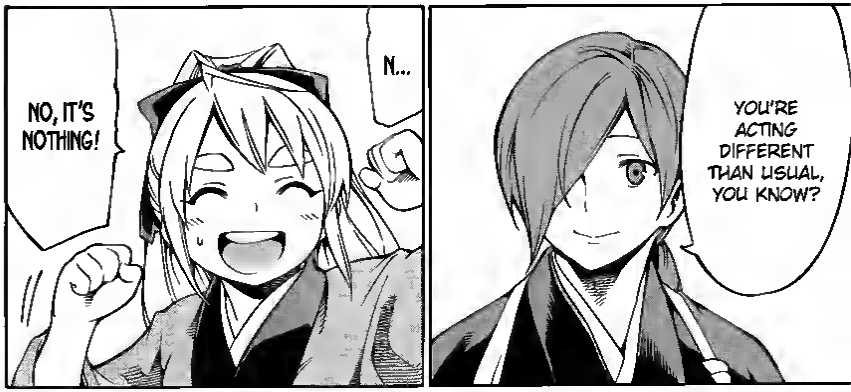

THIS WON'T DO.




SHONO-SUKE-SAMA,
HERE IS YOUR LUNCH.
Oh!
JUST IN TIME.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

KU... JUST ENOUGH SALT. IT'S DELICIOUS.
IF A SLUG TOUCHED THIS, IT'D DIE IMME-DIATELY.
...IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A COMPLI-MENT?

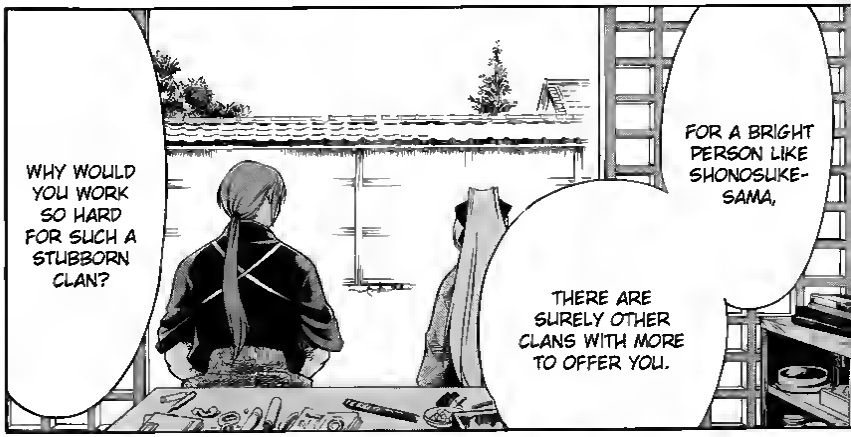
EH...?
IS SOME-THING WRONG, YAE-SAN?
.....


NO, IT'S NOTHING!
N...
YOU'RE ACTING DIFFERENT THAN USUAL, YOU KNOW?

I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY...
HM...
SHO... SHONOSUKE-SAMA, HOW ARE THINGS WITH YOU?
I'M LACKING ANOTHER TWO STEPS.

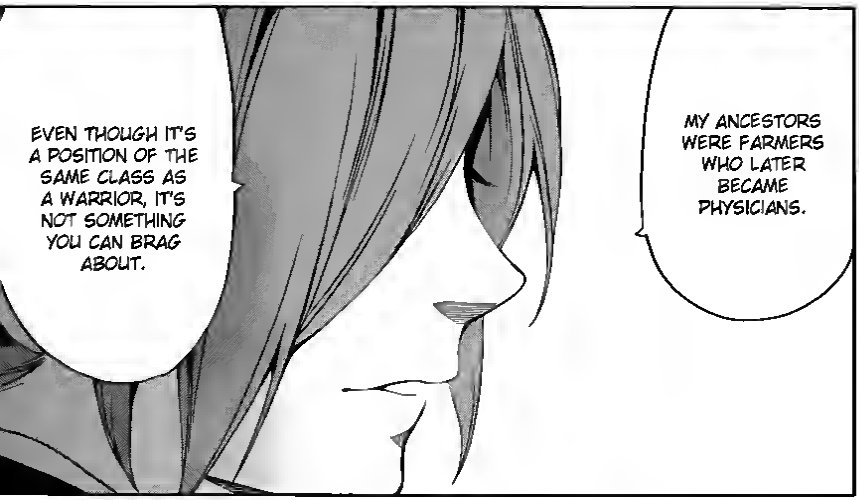
I'VE BEEN REJECTED SEVERAL TIMES ALREADY,
BUT I BELIEVE THAT THIS TIME I CAN GAIN THE TRUST OF ALL OF THE LORDS IN THE CLAN.
IF I CAN MODIFY THIS MODEL TO LOAD FROM THE REAR, THEN IT WOULD BE BETTER THAN LOADING FROM THE FRONT, AND I'D ABLE TO FIRE MORE SHOTS.
YEAH!
WILL BECOME THREE TIMES STRONGER.
IF IT IS A SUCCESS, THEN THE AIZU CLAN

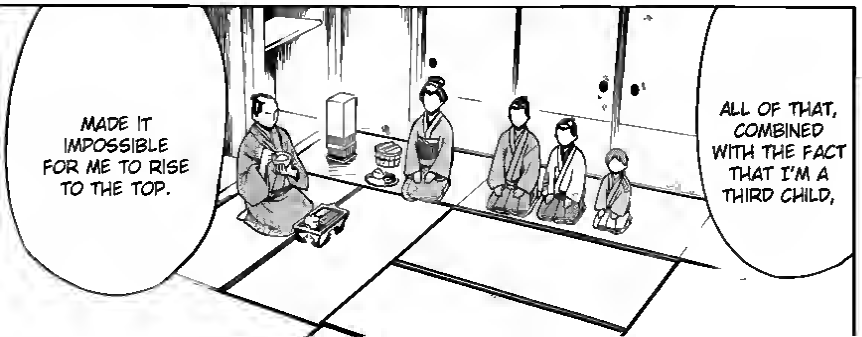
HUH?
SHONOSUKE-SAMA, WHY WOULD YOU WORK SO HARD FOR US?


WHY WOULD YOU WORK SO HARD FOR SUCH A STUBBORN CLAN?
FOR A BRIGHT PERSON LIKE SHONOSUKE-SAMA,
THERE ARE SURELY OTHER CLANS WITH MORE TO OFFER YOU.

...IT'S A LONG STORY.

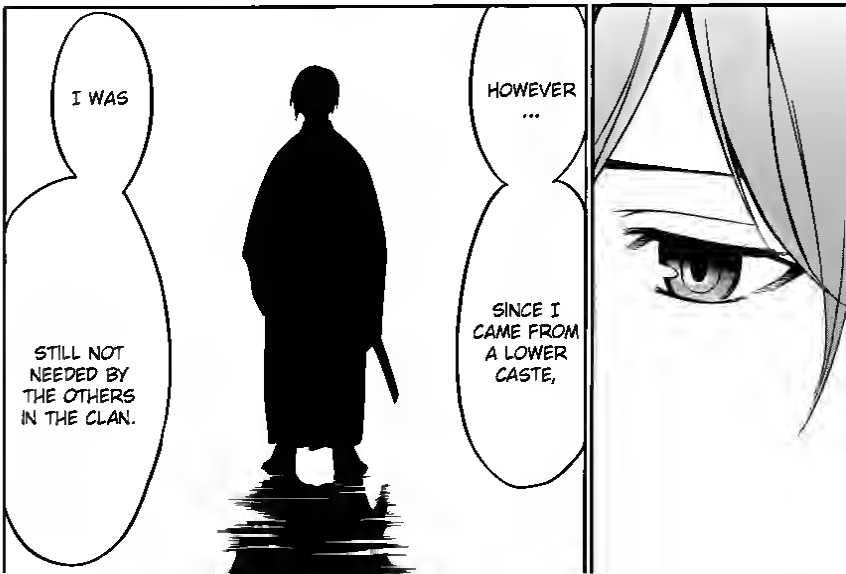
I WAS BORN
IN THE IZUSHI DOMAIN OF THE TAJIMA PROVINCE.
IT'S A COUNTRY FAR AWAY FROM THE CAPITAL TO THE WEST.
YES.


MY ANCESTORS WERE FARMERS WHO LATER BECAME PHYSICIANS.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A POSITION OF THE SAME CLASS AS A WARRIOR, IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU CAN BRAG ABOUT.


ALL OF THAT, COMBINED WITH THE FACT THAT I'M A THIRD CHILD,
MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO RISE TO THE TOP.

EVEN IF I HAD THE ABILITY, I WAS TREATED DIFFERENTLY BECAUSE OF MY FAMILY.
I WAS FRUS-TRATED.
.....

IN ORDER TO GET AHEAD OF OTHERS, I EVEN LEARNED SOME WESTERN TECHNIQUES.
THAT'S WHY I WENT TO EDO, TO GAIN AS MUCH KNOWLEDGE AS I COULD.

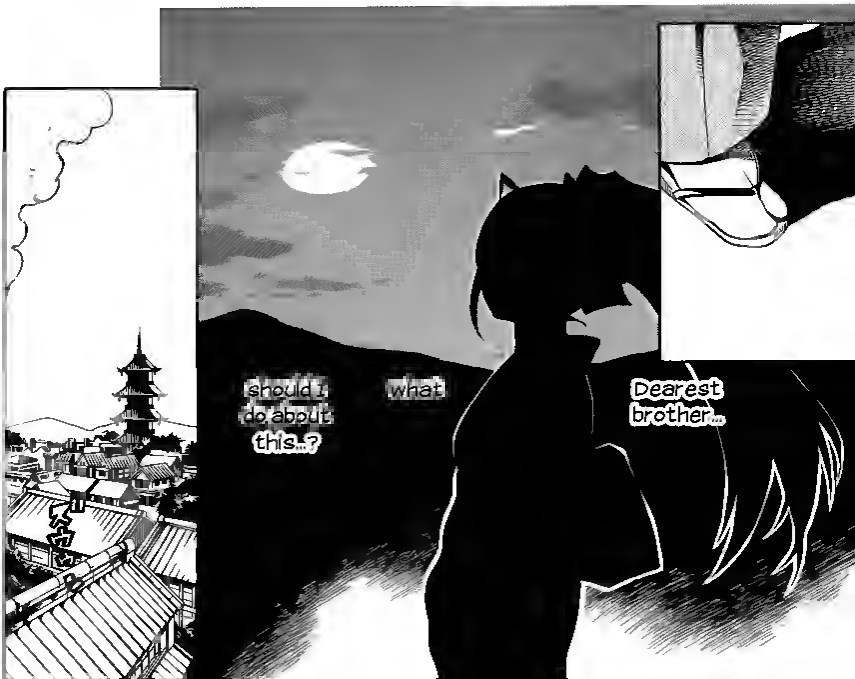

I WAS STILL NOT NEEDED BY THE OTHERS IN THE CLAN.
HOWEVER ...
SINCE I CAME FROM A LOWER CASTE,

I'M NOW AMONG THE TEACHERS IN THE NISSHINKAN OF AIZU.
YOUR BROTHER STILL ACKNOWLEDGED SOMEONE LIKE ME.
SHONOSUKE-SAMA..
BUT YOU KNOW, YAE-SAN..
I WILL DO AS MUCH AS I CAN FOR HIM
AND THE AIZU THAT HE LOVES
IN ORDER TO REPAY KAKUMA-SAN'S KINDNESS TOWARDS ME.

"I'M GLAD SHONOSUKE-SAMA CAME TO AIZU."
MY DEAREST BROTHER WOULD OFTEN SAY THAT...
AND I SHARE HIS SENTIMENT.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I'M SORRY FOR RAMBLING ON FOR SO LONG.
NOT AT ALL.

...I always felt
that she was just a child...

I can't be selfish and refuse the proposal
Father said...
he wanted me to obtain happiness...


what should I do about this...?
Dearest brother...

READY!
RIFLE-MEN!
ドゴォ
At that moment, in Kyoto
FIRE!!

One year before, during the coup on August 18th, the battle to eliminate the Joi faction led by Choushu proved hectic.
The Aizu clan, led by Katamori,
gained the trust of Emperor Takaaki.

On July 19th, 1864, they sent reinforcements from home towards the imperial palace in order to return to power in the capital.

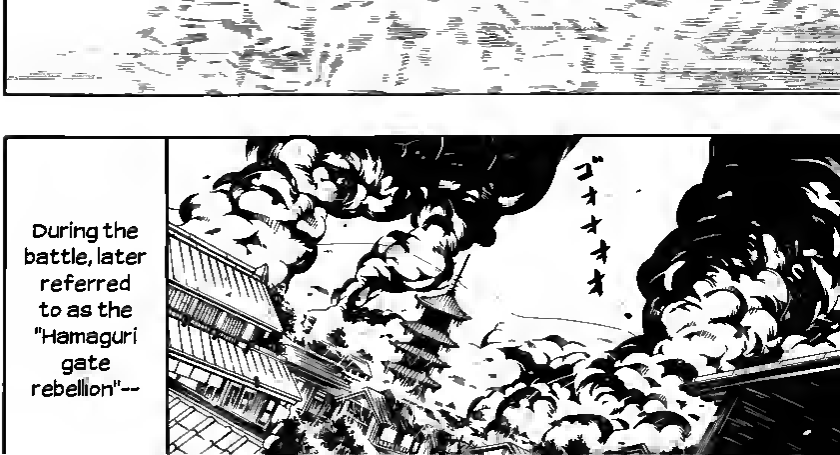
Chased from the capital, the Choushu clan lost many others during the Ikedaya incident.

with their mortal enemy, the Aizu clan.

And so, they met up on the battlefield

ヒュルル…
DON'T BACK DOWN! FIRE!
OOOH!!
NO MATTER WHAT, WE MUST PROTECT THE IMPERIAL PALACE!
ドドド

Wh...
what's
this...?


During the battle, later referred to as the "Hamaguri gate rebellion"--
ゴオオオオ

KATSURA-SAN! WE CAN'T KEEP UP ANYMORE. PLEASE, RETREAT WITH US!
How-ever..
The Satsuma domain, utilizing a new type of firearm, helped Aizu win a hard battle.

.....
GUH

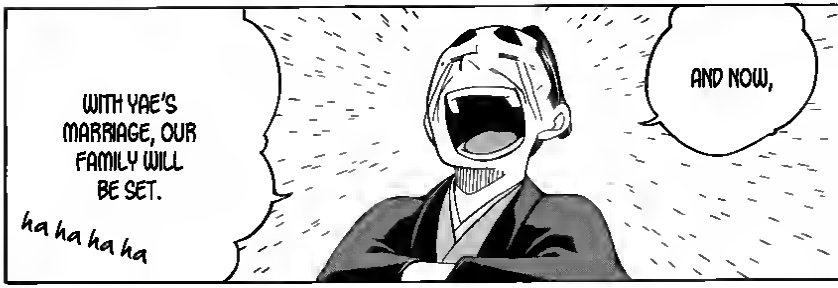
MAT SU-DAIRA...
This battle...
DAMN... AIZU...

an un-
measurable
grudge.
AIZU
THIS
HATRED
I FEEL...
I WILL
FOREVER
REMEM-
BER...!
I will etch
upon the
Choushu
branch's
backbone.

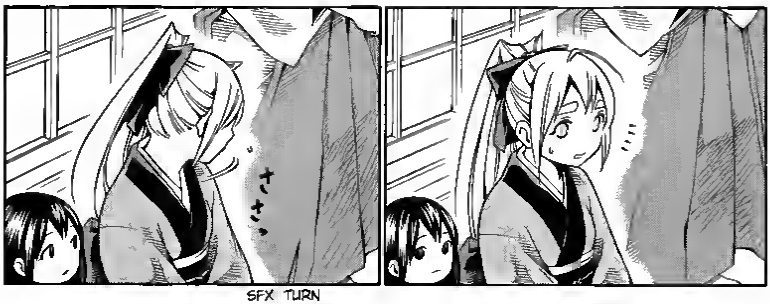
THIS BIG BATTLE, UNSEEN BY THE AIZU CLAN FROM THE BEGINNING,
UTTERLY DISPERSED THE ENEMY FORCES!
OUR SIDE WON A COMPLETE VICTORY!
Waaah!
THAT'S FANTASTIC!
HOW... HOW'S OUR BROTHER!?
HOW'S MY DEAR HUSBAND...!?

I'M SO GLAD...
AS EXPECTED OF BROTHER!!
THE RIFLEMEN, LED BY KAKUMA, FOUGHT INCREDIBLE BATTLES.
YEAH!
THEY WON DIFFICULT FIGHTS!!

SFX YEAH


AND NOW,
WITH YAE'S MARRIAGE, OUR FAMILY WILL BE SET.
ha ha ha ha

Marriage.
stuck
UGH...

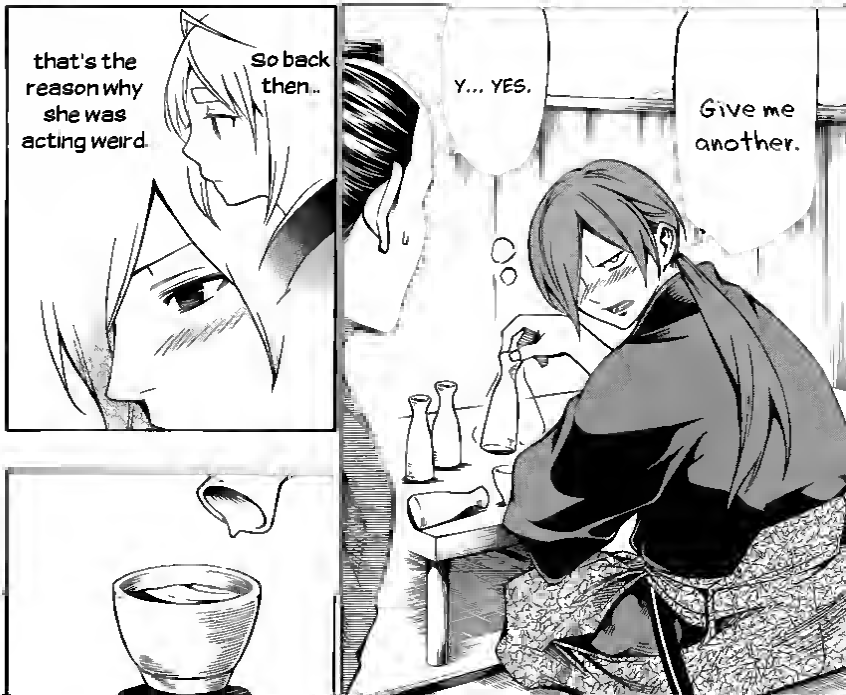

さささ

SFX TURN

for Yae-san's hand in marriage

Someone asked
TH... THAT IS GREAT NEWS...

ぐびぐびぐびぐび
SFX: GLUG GLUG GLUG
がやがや
SFX: CROWD NOISE
酒屋
ドン!
SFX: TAP!


that's the reason why she was acting weird.
So back then..
Y... YES.
Give me another.

I take a small stipend, I live as a guest in the home of another...
I, on the other hand, am still unable to assume a position in the Aizu clan.
Yae-san became engaged.
Kakuma-san made a name for himself on the battlefield.
My situation is only deteriorating further...
and I'm unable to make progress in firearm modification.
to accomplish for myself at this point...?
What do I hope

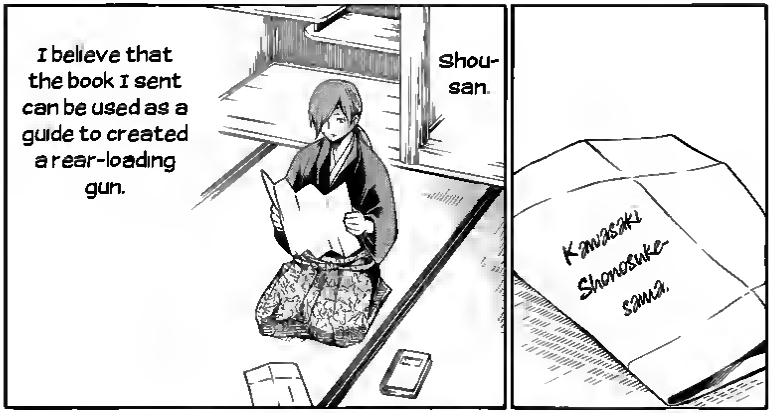
HEY.
I HEARD YOU PROPOSED TO YAE OF THE YAMAMOTO FAMILY.
AH, YEAH.
WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT THAT DAMN GIRL?
HEHE~
DON'T YOU THINK IT FEELS GOOD TO DOMINATE A STRONG-WILLED GIRL?
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE YAE. SHE'S ACTUALLY WELL-BUILT.
AND QUITE ENDOWED!
BUT YOU KNOW, SINCE IT'S THAT GIRL
SHE MAY PUT A RIFLE IN HER DOWRY.
HAA!
THERE'S NO WAY I'D ALLOW HER TO TOUCH A FIREARM AFTER MARRYING ME.
.....
ahahahaha

OF COURSE,
MY OWN RIFLE WILL STILL NEED TO BE MAINTAINED BY THAT CUTE GIRL EVERY NIGHT. ♪
GAH HA HA HA HA
WH... WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO!?
!!
HNNN

I FIGURED AS MUCH.
!?
PEOPLE WHO SPEAK POORLY HAVE LOOKS TO MATCH.
SFX: ANGER
YOU BAS-TARD!!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY
I'M GETTING ANGERED BY THIS.
uuu...
SUCH A STRENUOUS ACT—
I'M STILL NO GOOD AT IT—
cough cough
はぁ、
SFX HAA—
What's wrong with me...?

Wh... What's wrong with your face?
TEJIRO-KUN?
SHONO-SUKE-SAMA.
Sorry, but please don't ask
Ahaha! You've finally noticed?
Come to think of it, you've grown.
FOR ME?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
OUR LORD SENT A LETTER FOR YOU.
AH, AND THIS
THIS IS...


I believe that the book I sent can be used as a guide to created a rear-loading gun.
Shou-san.
Kawasaki Shousuke-sama.

Aizu is stubborn, so it will be difficult for you, Shou-san
THE WESTERN BOOK HAS ILLUSTRATIONS WITH DESIGNS THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

Even if I'm going overboard, please read until the end
As such, I'd like to give you some advice.

I'd like you to take Yae's hand in marriage.

You won't merely be a teacher, so it will be possible for you to be promoted and officially become an Aizu clansman.

If you are willing to marry her, Shou-san will become a member of Aizu.

As such, I wish for someone like Shou-san, someone who can understand Yae, to marry her.

The way that my sister is, even if she entered a normal family, I don't think she'd be happy.

When it comes down to it,
I wish for you to keep this next part secret from my family.
山本宛
.....
!!!
My eyesight will be completely gone soon.
During the earlier battle, I was injured. I consulted a doctor, but it doesn't look good.
H... HOW!!?

I know I'm asking for too much, but I wish for you to fill my shoes and support the Yamamoto family.
And just as importantly.
I'll leave Yae to you,
Shou-san.

THIS DOESN'T FIT HIS STYLE...
TO SECRETLY
USE THE PAST AS AN EXCUSE AND TWIST MY OWN TRAITS...
SFX GRIPS
Kakuma-san.
The cloud of confusion has dispersed,

ONE MORE STEP.

ALL RIGHT.

Yae-san,
I will use this gun
TO SHOOT YOUR HEART!!
A manly aura. Will it bloom? Or...